

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

- 1           1.     An optical-signal receiver, comprising:  
2                an optical sensor operable to receive an optical signal from an optical-signal  
3 emitter communicatively coupled to an electronic system; and  
4                a processor operable to implement a performance characteristic value  
5 specified by the optical signal.
- 1           2.     The receiver of claim 1, further comprising a transmitter operable to  
2 communicate a state signal identifying a state of the receiver to the electronic  
3 system.
- 1           3.     A system, comprising:  
2                an optical-signal generator;  
3                an optical-signal emitter coupled to the generator; and  
4                an optical-signal receiver having a performance characteristic set to a first  
5 value, the receiver receiving from the emitter an optical signal operable to set the  
6 performance characteristic to a second value.
- 1           4.     The system of claim 3, wherein the generator comprises a computer  
2 system.
- 1           5.     The system of claim 3, wherein the emitter comprises a video-display  
2 monitor.
- 1           6.     The system of claim 3 wherein the receiver is operable to generate a  
2 state signal identifying a state of the receiver.
- 1           7.     The system of claim 6 wherein the receiver is further operable to  
2 communicate the state signal to the generator.
- 1           8.     The system of claim 6, wherein the emitter comprises a state-signal  
2 receiver operable to receive the state signal from the optical-signal receiver and  
3 provide the state signal to the generator.
- 1           9.     The system of claim 3, wherein the receiver comprises a wireless  
2 optical mouse.
- 1           10.    The system of claim 3, wherein a performance associated with the  
2 characteristic is displayable by the generator.

1           11.    The system of claim 3, wherein the performance characteristic  
2 comprises a frame rate.

1           12.    The system of claim 3, wherein the performance characteristic  
2 comprises an inactivity-period threshold.

1           13.    The system of claim 6, wherein the state comprises velocity relative to a  
2 surface.

1           14.    The system of claim 6, wherein:  
2           the state signal comprises a characteristic having first and second values; and  
3           the first and second state-signal characteristic values respectively correspond  
4 to the first and second performance-characteristic values.

1           15.    The system of claim 3, wherein the optical signal specifies the second  
2 value.

1           16.    The system of claim 6, wherein the state signal specifies the second  
2 value.

1           17.    A system, comprising:  
2           an optical-signal emitter operable to be coupled to an electronic system; and  
3           an optical-signal receiver having a performance characteristic set to a first  
4 value, the receiver receiving from the emitter an optical signal operable to set the  
5 performance characteristic to a second value.

1           18.    A method of programming an optical-signal receiver, comprising:  
2           generating an optical signal to be received by the optical-signal receiver from  
3 an optical-signal emitter, the receiver having a performance characteristic set to a  
4 first value, the optical signal operable to set the performance characteristic to a  
5 second value; and

6           displaying the optical signal.

1           19.    A method implemented by a receiver having a performance  
2 characteristic set to a first value, comprising:  
3           communicating a state signal identifying a state of the receiver to an electronic  
4 system;

5            receiving an optical signal from an emitter communicatively coupled to the  
6    electronic system, the optical signal operable to set the performance characteristic to  
7    a second value.